

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MAR - 2 2004

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

John J. Vecchione 2523 Buckelew Dr. Falls Church, VA 22046

RE: MUR 5281
American Muslim Council
Palestine Media Watch
www.pmwatch.org
www.voteHilliard.org
Hilliard for Congress Campaign
and Elvira W. Williams, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Vecchione:

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Federal Election Commission on July 1, 2002, concerning the above-named respondents. Based on that complaint, on February 20, 2004, the Commission found that there was reason to believe the American Muslim Council and Palestine Media Watch violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441b and 441d, provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). On the same date, the Commission found that there was no reason to believe Palestine Media Watch violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(c) or that the Hilliard for Congress Campaign and Elvira W. Williams, as treasurer, violated any provision of the Act or Commission regulations in this matter. After considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission determined to take no further action against the American Muslim Council and Palestine Media Watch, and closed the file in this matter on February 20, 2004. At the same time, the Commission admonished the American Muslim Council that soliciting federal contributions from persons who are not members of an incorporated organization's restricted class, and failing to include disclaimers in solicitations made through general public political advertising, are violations of the Act. The Commission admonished Palestine Media Watch that disseminating express advocacy corporate communications to members of the general public, and failing to include disclaimers in express advocacy communications made through general public political advertising, are violations of the Act. Finally, the Commission determined to take no action with respect to www.pmwatch.org and www.voteHilliard.org.

John J. Vecchione MUR 5281 Page 2 of 2

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003). A copy of the dispositive General Counsel's Report is enclosed for your information.

The Act allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Andersen

Thomas & ancless

Attorney

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report